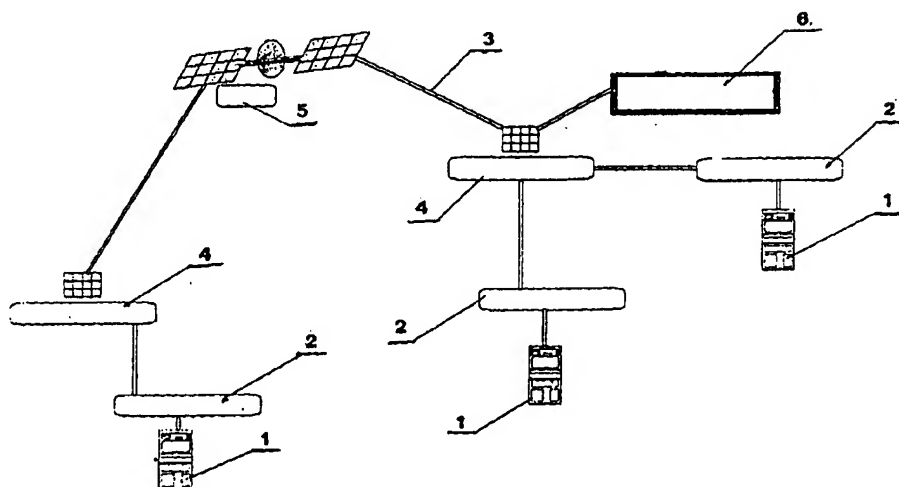




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(54) Title: EQUIPMENT FOR REMOTE OPERATION OF A BETTING AGENCY



(57) Abstract

The equipment for the remote operation of a betting agency consisting of a betting device (1) connected via connecting unit (2) to the telecommunication network (3) to which a central data bank (6) is connected. The betting device (1) consists of a power-supply unit (8) to which the following parts are connected: print block (12), coin acceptor (15), bank-note acceptor (16), special acceptor (17), illumination ramp (18), touch display screen (11) and a control unit (10) which is also connected to a print output (13) and print coupon output (14). The betting device (1) is made up of a base skeleton (7) the bottom part of which contains a coin box (9) and a power-supply unit (8), above which there are a control unit (10) and a print block (12). The face wall, in the place above the print block (12) carries a print output (13), for betting documents, and a print coupon output (14), with a touch display screen (11) situated above them. Above the touch display screen (11) are situated: a coin acceptor (15), bank-note acceptor (16), special acceptor (17) for credit cards, and the upper part of the front wall is terminated by an illumination ramp (18).

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Equipment for remote operation of a betting agency

Technical Field

5 The invention concerns equipment for the remote operation of a betting shop with the arrangement solution to a betting device and its interconnection with a central data bank.

10 Background Art

 The present practice in this field uses well-known closed circuits of betting shops where it is possible to participate, through pre-established terminals, in individual betting games by means of specific betting slip forms. The amount that is put as a stake on the output coupon must be paid
15 separately. After the release of results in the respective game it is necessary to verify the tipping coupon on a terminal. An analogous fact is mentioned in the document EP 647913 that describes equipment for the performance of a lottery game. The practice also works with conventional solutions of remote game systems in which the bettor can play against a remotely located betting
20 game or lottery. In the given case it is necessary to use a personal computer online connection and the bettor must get a credit access to the system which permits him a connection to the remote system of a host computer, for example WO 95/24689 and WO 96/00950, with an analogous solution of the protection of the improved remote game system by new software.

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Disclosure of Invention

 The above mentioned shortcomings can be removed, to a considerable degree, by equipment for a remote operation of a betting
30 agency according to the invention consisting of a communication system to which a betting device is connected. Its essential feature is that the betting

device is connected via a connecting unit to a telecommunication network to which a central data bank is connected. The betting device consists of a power-supply unit to which a print block, coin acceptor, bank-note acceptor, special acceptor, illumination ramp, touch display screen and a control unit
5 are connected. The control unit is also connected to a print output and a print coupon output. The betting device is made up of a base skeleton, the lower part of which accommodates a coin box and a power-supply unit – located above them is a control unit and a print block. The face wall above the print block carries a print output for betting documents and a print coupon output
10 over which a touch display screen is situated. Above the touch display screen are installed: a coin acceptor, bank-note acceptor, special acceptor for credit cards. The upper part of the front wall is terminated by an illumination ramp. The telecommunication network can be made up of an internet network with satellites and internet servers, of which at least one
15 must is connected to the central data bank. In the case in question, a telephone exchange is used as a connecting unit. In another case the telecommunication network can be made up of a mobile telephone network in which a mobile telephone is employed as a connecting device. The control unit contains a central unit with supporting peripherals, a modem and safety
20 circuits.

The betting device system and its connection to the central data bank, according to the invention, makes it possible to operate betting games at all places where the access to a telecommunication network is available. At such places the bettor communicates with the betting device through a touch
25 display screen, which guarantees an easy and comfortable control. The betting device permits to select the respective environment and so language barriers are eliminated. The betting device enables the bettor to watch the bidding process of betting, actual rates, game results and all other information for the realisation of bets. The bettor can choose their form,
30 visual one on the touch display screen, printed form, or both cases at the same time. The contact between the central data bank and the betting

device is made at a lower load of the communication network for example during the night, which eliminates error transmissions in the sending of betting bids, rates of the bets etc. The cryptography of data in the transmissions does not permit their misuse or unauthorised handling. The
5 central bank is also employed for checking activities to ensure regularity of betting. The betting agency in question can be operated both inland and internationally.

10 Brief Description of Drawings

The invention is elucidated in more detail by means of the drawing in which fig. 1 represents the equipment for the remote operation of a betting agency, fig. 2 a block diagram of the betting device and fig. 3 the betting device arrangement from the face side.

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Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

The equipment for the remote operation of a betting agency consisting of a betting device 1 connected via a connecting unit 2 to a
20 telecommunication network 3. In the exemplification, the telecommunication network 3 is created as internet network with satellite 5 and internet servers 4. One internet server 4 is connected to the central data bank 6. The telecommunication network 3 can be formed by a mobile telephone network where a mobile telephone is used as the connecting unit 2 and where at
25 least one is connected with the central data bank 6. The betting device 1 consists of a power supply-unit 8 for the feeding of single sets of the betting device 1. The power-supply unit 8 is connected to the print block 12, coin acceptor 15, bank-note acceptor 16, special acceptor 17, illumination ramp 18, touch display screen 11, for the output of optical information and control
30 of all functions, and a control unit 10. The control unit 10 contains a central unit, with supporting peripherals, for ensuring the necessary functions, with a

modem, for ensuring a connection to the central data bank 6. The control unit 10 is also connected to the print output 13 and to the print coupon output 14. In space aspect, the betting device 1 is designed so that the base skeleton 7 holds, in its bottom part, a coin box 9 for safe depositing of coins and bank-notes, a power-supply unit 8 with sources for the feeding of the betting device 1, and filtration members to eliminate entry of interference pulses. A little higher is situated the control unit 10 which provides for the control and communication of single components with the central data bank 6, and a print block 12. In the face wall, above the print block 12, are installed the print output 13 for betting documents and a print coupon output 14. Above them is the touch display screen 11 that is intended for the bettor's communication with the betting device 1. The following parts are located above the touch display screen 11: a coin acceptor 15, bank-note acceptor 16, special acceptor 17, for credit cards. The upper part of the front wall is terminated by an illumination ramp 18.

On the prepared betting device 1, the bettor selects the kind of bet, its amount and fills in the betting coupon on the touch display screen 11. The control unit 10 checks the correctness of the coupon and offers it to the bettor for approval. After the payment of the respective sum into the acceptors 15, 16, 17, the print block 12 will print the coupon on the print coupon output 14. The correctness of the winning is checked by comparing with the central data bank 6. The central data bank 6 prepares the data needed for the operation. It creates the offers of bets, rates of bets, carries out updating, sending and reception of the necessary data. It performs also checking activities intended to ensure regularity of bets. These pieces of information are transferred from the central data bank 6 to the betting devices 1 every day in the period of reduced communication load of the communication network, namely, e.g. in the night-time. Simultaneously the data from single betting devices 1 are collected and then processed in the central data bank 6. Between the central data bank 6 and individual betting devices 1, there is a both-way communication traffic via telecommunication

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network 3 with the satellite 5 to the respective internet server 4. The transmitted data are encrypted to prevent misuse. The network load and communication time are reduced by adequate data compression.

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CLAIMS

- 5 1. The equipment for the remote operation of a betting agency that consists of a communication system to which a betting device is connected **characterized by** the betting device (1) connected via connecting unit (2) to a telecommunication network (3) to which a central data bank (6) is connected, with the betting device (1) being made
10 up of a power-supply unit (8) to which print block (12), coin acceptor (15), bank-note acceptor (16), special acceptor (17), illumination ramp (18), touch display screen (11) and control unit (10) are connected, the latter being also connected to a print output (13) and a print coupon output (14).
- 15 2. The equipment according to the claim 1 **characterized by** follows: the betting device (1) is formed by a base skeleton (7), the bottom part of which accommodates a coin box (9), power-supply unit (8), with a control unit (10) and print block (12) situated above them, with the face wall carrying, above the print block (12), a print output (13) for betting documents
20 and a print coupon output (14), with a touch display screen (11) being mounted above them, and with the following parts also mounted above the touch display screen (11): coin acceptor (15), bank-note acceptor (16), special acceptor (17) for credit cards, and the upper part of the front wall terminated by an illumination ramp (18).
- 25 3. The equipment according to the claims 1 and 2 **characterized by** follows: the telecommunication network (3) is made up of satellites (5) and internet servers (4) of which at least one is connected to the central data bank (6), with a telephone exchange being provided here as a connecting
30 unit (2).

4. The equipment according to the claims 1 and 2 **characterized**
by follows: the telecommunication network (3) is formed by a mobile
telephone net-work, with the connecting unit (2) created in form of the mobile
5 telephone where at least one mobile telephone is connected to the central
data bank (6).

5. The equipment according to the claims 1 to 3 **characterized**
by follows: the control unit (10) contains a central unit with supporting
10 peripherals, a modem and safety circuits.

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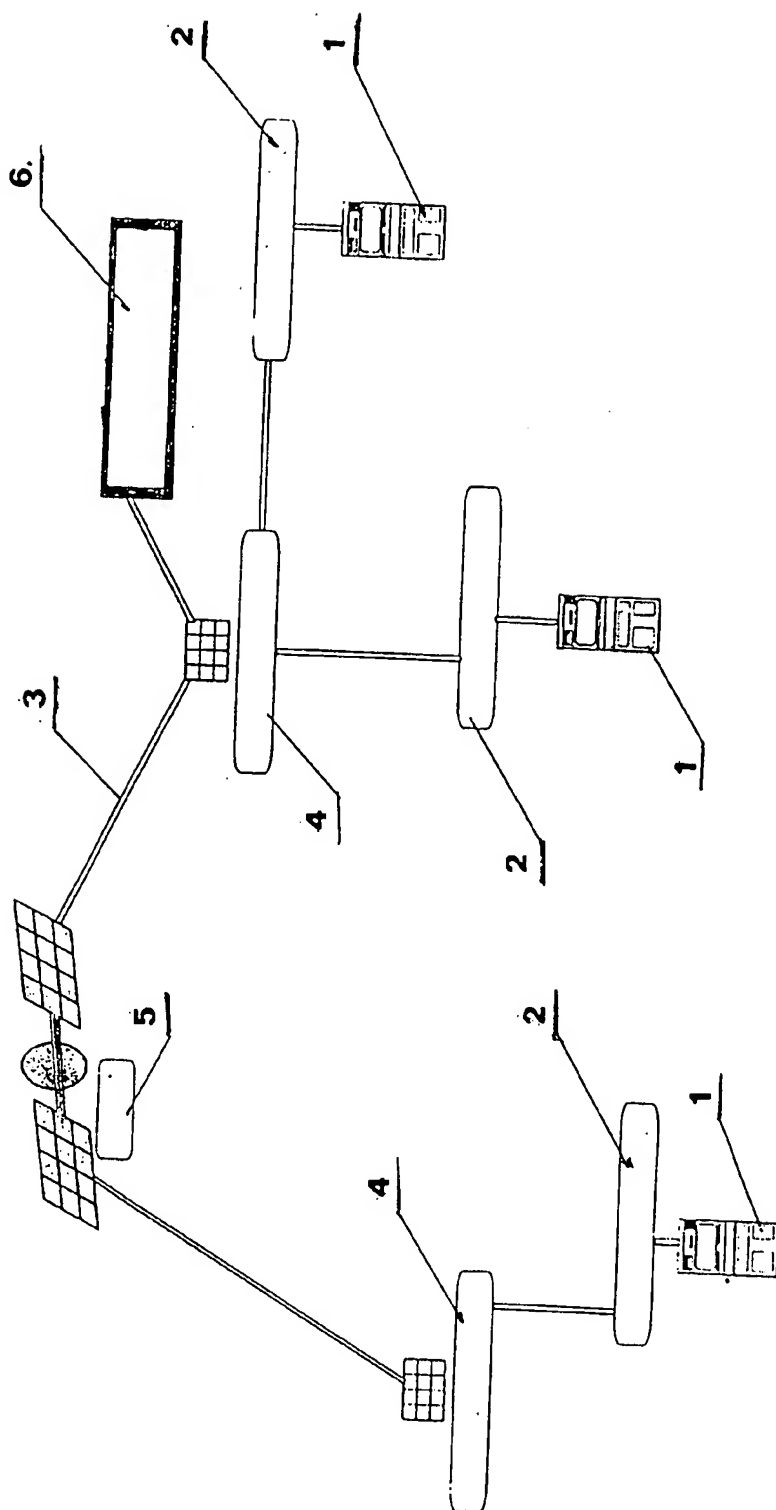


Fig. 1

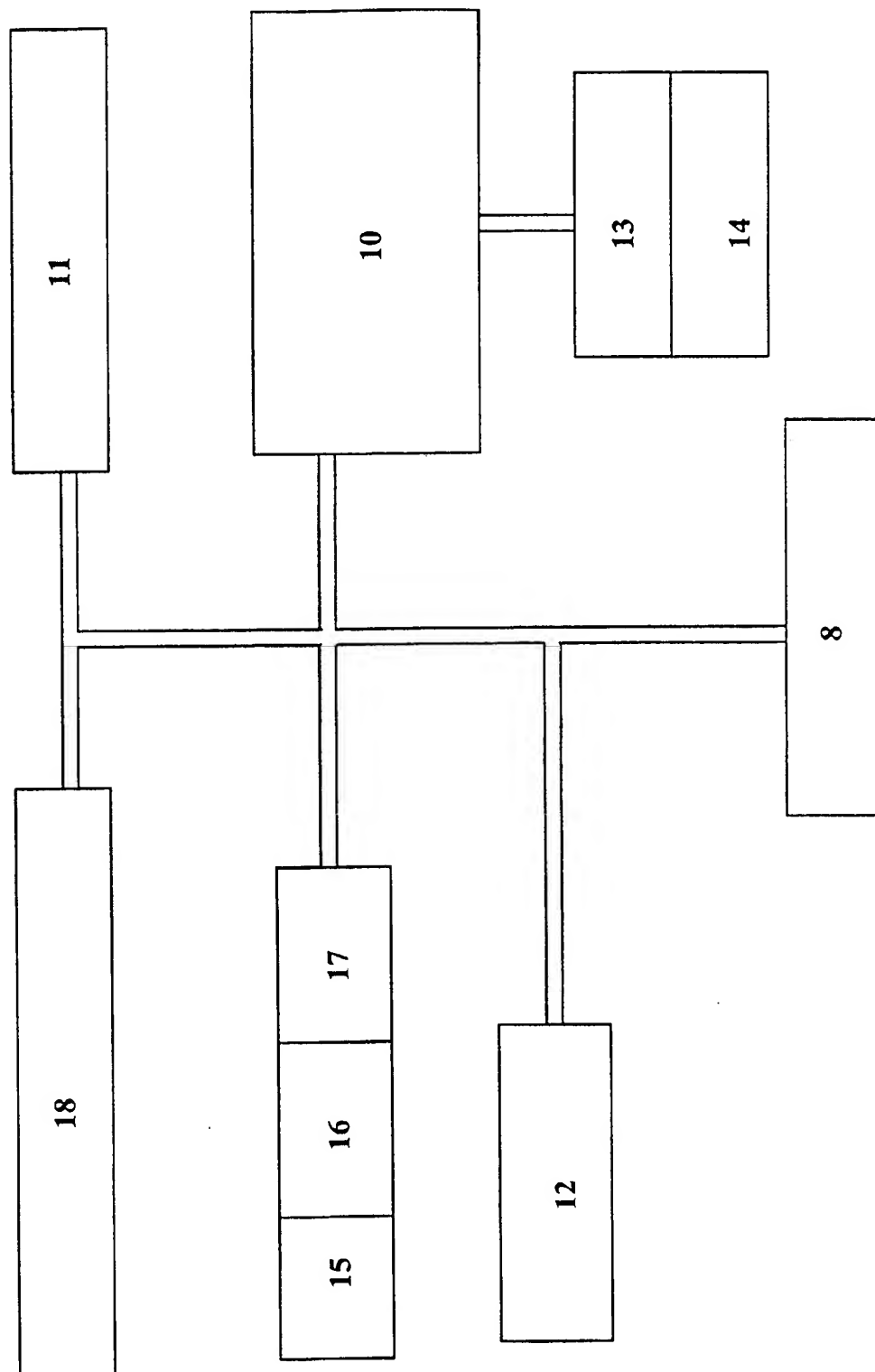


Fig. 2

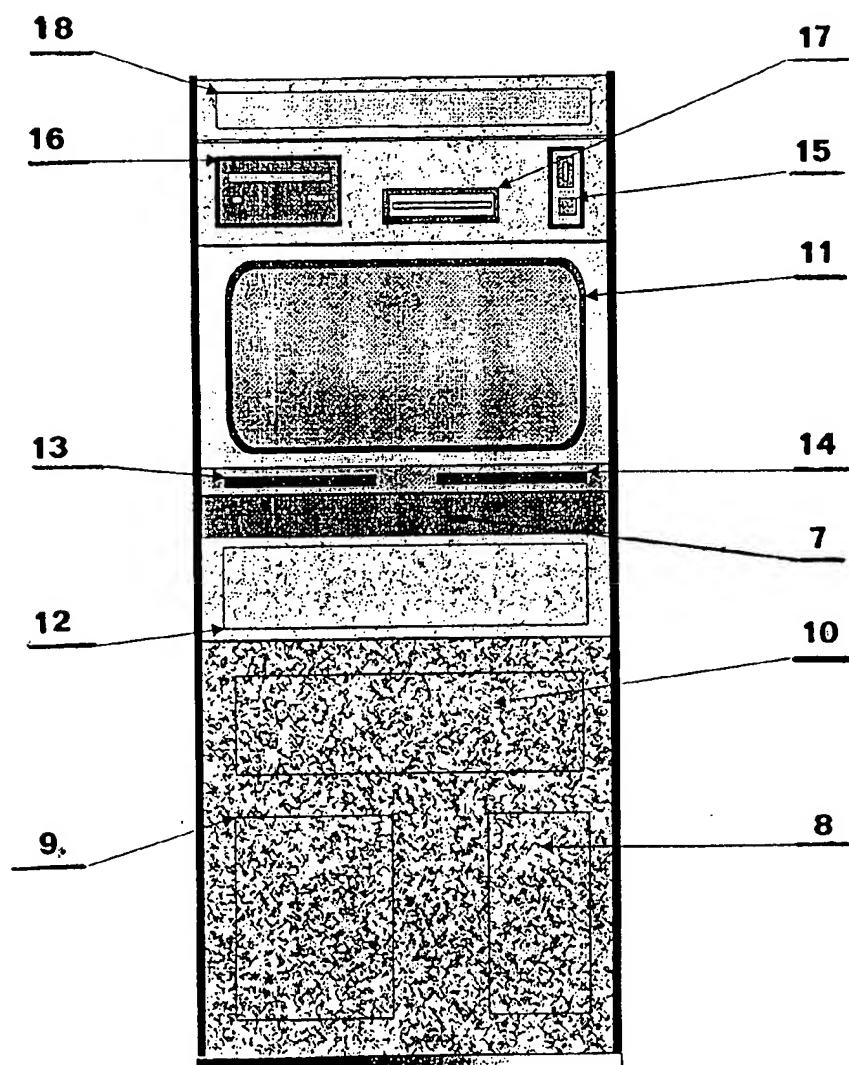


Fig. 3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CZ 99/00005

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 G07F17/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 G07F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 769 769 A (BALLY GAMING INTERNATIONAL) 23 April 1997	1,2
Y	see column 4, line 19 - line 59 see column 5, line 37 - line 55; figures ---	3-5
Y	DE 196 02 626 A (SOFTWARE 4 YOU) 31 July 1997	3-5
A	see page 2, line 43 - page 3, line 1; figures ---	1,2
Y	DE 195 02 613 A (EIBA) 1 August 1996	4,5
A	see column 5, line 20 - column 6, line 44 see column 8, line 21 - line 35; figures -----	1,2



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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